

Friday 24/11

1848.

My dear friend

Your letter (accompanied by the sample sheets) reached me on the 24th of Wed. - too late for mail - & yesterday being our Thanksgiving-Day, my reply was necessarily delayed until this morning - I am heartily sorry that you have had so much trouble with W. C. & Co. & truly, if they could make ~~make~~ good "stock", such careless people would be well paid up in their own mills - but even our friend Rice, if planned, might not make good pudding - nor even glue for sticking plants - so we must just let him be, & deal with things as they are - And first, I pray you, take to spectacles, or get a new rule, whichever may be needed - You say "the fullest sheets are scant $16\frac{1}{2}$, the shortest scant $16\frac{1}{4}$ " - The 3 sheets you send me, measure respectively, as follows,

$16\frac{1}{16}$
 $16\frac{3}{16}$
 $16\frac{1}{4}$

} = $16\frac{1}{6}$ or, on an average, exactly $\frac{1}{3}$? of an inch shorter than the order - The

breadth is, in each case, $11\frac{13}{32}$ or nearly $\frac{1}{8}$ in. short -

As to the weight, it is stout enough, & as you say, feels well. The hue is peculiar, being no shade of blue, like yours, nor of the ordinary yellowish-white, but, as it appears to my eye, a hint of green! This, however, is of no moment, as the green herbage will at once neutralize this - Our friend H. Clingworth comes nearer to the mark - his length being exactly right ($16\frac{1}{2}$.) & the width falling short only $\frac{3}{8}$ in. in the entire length, or $\frac{3}{16}$ in the folded sheet - so that, as you say, it falls in well enough with the other paper - as it is better than if it had been exact. I think it, ^{of} a very good texture, & the 50¢ W. ream, therefore, is well enough saved.

Now, then, "the total of the whole", as Joey Hume says, it is, you have made a capital arrangement, under all circumstances, much better than I probably should have done myself,

& altho^t I dislike curtailing our size $\frac{1}{3}$ in. x $\frac{1}{8}$ in. in the blank,
yet, as you remark, it is of less moment to me & Olney, as beginners,
than to your goodself; who have so many reams, of the larger
quadr dimensions - Still, they will work together well enough
but, since the bunglers have seen fit to exceed our order
by 13 reams! - there is neither right nor reason in your
being saddled with the whole of the extra quantity, merely
because you have had all the labour & trouble of effecting
the arrangement! - especially, since it is not all that we de-
sired, & suits you, less than ourselves. The extra quantity app-
to be divisible, in the ratio of our respective orders, as
follows,

Olney -	16	=	19
C. -	24	=	28
Agv. -	35	=	41
	75	=	88

You will please therefore, send me 28 reams, in 2
boxes of 14 each, & instead of 6 send 8 of genera paper,
which the extra white paper will require - You will not mind
your own allowance of this being rather curtailed, as
Hollingsworth can make more for you of your exact
dimensions, when you want it - Also, in view of this
my extra allowance of paper, if the affair is not already
completed, please print 18 instead of 15 quires of *Herb. Caribaeum*
in other words, the whole ream of paper, exclusive of
the 2 quires of outsides - of which I make you a present!!!
If the type is broken up, it is of no consequence - Please
ship any *Herb. Paper*, as soon as it can be got ready,
by Steam Boat - sending Bk. to Cary & Co. who will attend
to it - The labels may come by Express, afterward, & will
not be in danger of impeded navigation. As to cost, I
will remit you, as soon as I get your Mem. of exact
amount; & by the way, your clever management with W. C. H.

coupled with their own blundering, as to weight, will give
us the increased quantity for the same sum that we were
calculating to pay for the smaller - which suits me quite well
for I had "screwed my courage up" to the uttermost, & have only
now to persuade myself, as best I may, that the diminished
size is - an advantage! Olney will be very foolish (one judge
if he does not take at least 20 reams, for he cannot possibly
turn 16 to any account in a paper - *Herb.* Leaving
that, however, to him & you, I have only to thank you, my
dear friend, for my share of the trouble & annoyance which
this affair has cost you - & of which "no more at present!"

Whilst writing this who should drop in but our friend "the bot-
tlemouth"! Just from Ohio, & off for Mass. this Morn! He
offered to take my letter, but I could not detain him whilst
I finished it, but broke off & took him to the Med. Coll.
to introduce him to Torrey - who was not there. I
cannot tell you therefore what he may have done with
my first letter to you - He said he would enclose it
in his own, to go by the parcel you received - It is
cautiously still at the College! Whilst at Brother Sanis's,
yesterday, I saw, in his *Herb.*, a piece of *Astrag. racemosa*
from the Nicolet plant, as determined by Torrey - whether
it is Pursh's plant, or not, may be doubtful, but it is clearly
A. Drummondii, so far as the specimen goes - Indeed, I see
nothing to distinguish them but the "trigynous" legume in
A. rac. which is "cylindrical" in *A. Drum.* - Sanis's plant
shows only the very young pod, but Torrey perhaps had
the older fruit before him, as he refers it, without query,
in his Cat. of the Nicolet plants, to *A. racem.* - However,
to my point, & yours - it is a different plant from the
spading one - which is probably a *Nyct.* The Nicolet plant
has much longer filiform catyx teeth & smooth ovaries.
I have a few lines from Sullivant who thinks our friend "a
most worthy gentleman" - & a fine biologist - He has made him

offers which A. appears to be delighted with, & will no doubt accept - but I leave him to tell his own news, which he will in fact have done, some hours before this is at hand - in all probability - I thank you for the Konhiana (date - send me that of Spack's Ambria, when you write next - This little job will not take a couple of hours work, & yet, oddly enough, I have never felt like telling about it - I have not, in fact, made a note with respect - I heartily rejoice at your home news - they my best love to the dear "mrs. wife" & all other estimable kindred.

I am, as always, Yrs. affly H.

I have caught another terrible cold - & want nursing & petting! I wish, that the dear lady I. to be expediting matters with the \$10000. lady, that I may have some one to look after me.



Prof. A. Gray
Cambridge
Massachusetts.

Bellevue Ave I have no free file news - in fact I have turned to the study of the history of no longer